



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Governor's Council for Agricultural Development Producer Education and Training



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD June 13, 2013 Room G8A State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture 165 Capitol Ave, Hartford CT 06106

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jamie Jones, working group chair, called the meeting to order at 1:17pm. Other working group members present were Eloise Marinos (Georoots Solar Growth Farms), Bill Duesing (CT NOFA), Joe Geremia (Geremia Greenhouses), Elaine Clark (Board of Regents for Higher Education).

Working group members Bill Davenport (Nonnewaug Agriscience Center), Diane Hirsch (Uconn Extension), Dr. Cameron Faustman (University of Connecticut), Department of Labor Representative, were absent.

Also present were Linda Piotrowicz, representing Commissioner Reviczky (Governor's Council chairman), and Mary Joaquin (Connecticut Department of Agriculture).

II. INTRODUCTIONS

The working group members introduced themselves and provided information about their areas of expertise.

III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Jamie Jones provided an overview of the council's work since it convened in January 2012.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENT

Jamie Jones introduced the assignment that the Producer Education and Training working group will be undertaking in 2013. This assignment is to develop recommendations for specific statewide initiatives to provide an adequate agricultural workforce based on GCAD's 2012 Recommendation No. 5.

V. DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT DELIVERABLES

The group engaged in an in-depth discussion about its assignment and came to consensus on the following:

The group will work on the following four recommendations:

Incubator Farm Program on possible public/private land

Getting vocational agriculture on the same level as the vocational trade education

Innovation center development

Development of apprenticeship/internship program with colleges and universities

VI. DETERMINATION OF RESOURCES REQUIRED

The group discussed the resources required by each component of the draft deliverables.

VII. RECAP AND NEXT STEPS

Jamie Jones recapped the highlights of the discussion and the next steps, which include gathering of additional information related to the four recommendations to be developed, and determination of whether the group will meet in person or work via email/phone.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Jamie Jones adjourned meeting at 4:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Joaquin
June 13, 2013